(c) Does not arise. In the year 2006-07, a quantity of 254.79 lakh MT of urea and 77.57 lakh MT of DAP was made available to the States as against a quantity of 229.40 lakh MT of urea and 71.65 lakh MT of DAP that was made available during 2005-06.

Scarcity of medicines in the CGHS dispensaries

*432. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a scarcity of medicines/life saving drugs in the CGHS dispensaries, hospitals located in the NCT of Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the CGHS beneficiaries are getting medicines that are about to expire in a month or so;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for supply of about to expire medicines;

(d) whether Government have taken steps to verify stocks of various medicines that are lying in the stocks; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (e) Adequate quantity of medicines is available in CGHS dispensaries. However, any drug prescribed by the specialists and not available in the dispensary is made available to the beneficiary from the Authorised Local Chemist on the basis of individual prescription. In the case of CGHS dispensaries which do not have any Authorized Local Chemist attached to them, the CGHS beneficiaries (including pensioner beneficiaries) are permitted to purchase the medicines from the open market for which reimbursement is made by the Government.

Procurement of medicines for CGHS, Delhi, is done centrally through Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (HSCC). One of the conditions for the supply of medicines is that the medicines should have a residual shelf-life of atleast 18 months.

The verification of stock of medicines in dispensaries/hospitals is done periodically and is a continuous process for monitoring the supply and utility of medicines within its shelf-life.